



#10/368/B
3/8/02
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:)

Nicholas C. Nicolaides, et al.)

Serial No. 09/780,675)

Filed: February 12, 2001)

For: A METHOD FOR GENERATING
HYPERMUTABLE MICROBES)

Group Art Unit: 1641

Examiner: TBA

Attorney Docket No. 01107.00098

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminarily to the examination of the above-identified application, kindly amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, lines 5-7, please replace paragraph with the following:

B¹ This application claims the benefit of provisional application S.N. 60/181,929 filed February 11, 2000.

IN THE CLAIMS:

On page 56, please amend claim 26 as follows:

sub
BAC³ 26. (Amended) The homogenous composition of claim 20 wherein the bacteria comprise a protein which consists of the first 133 amino acids of PMS2.